

S E C R E T

17 January 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Automatic Aircrewman Survival System Developed  
by Vought Missiles and Space Company

1. The December 1971 issue of Naval Aviation News had an article on tests being conducted on a new Emergency Abandonment System. This system is being developed by the Naval Air Development Center at Warminster, Pennsylvania. The manual/automatic system under test and development will enable pilots and aircrewmen to be released from the cockpit attachments simultaneously during an emergency. The same system gets rid of an ejectione's parachute and energizes his flotation equipment also instantaneously when he enters the water.

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2. [redacted] of the Intelligence Division (OSA) was contacted to see if an up-to-date progress report and completion date could be obtained. [redacted] 25X1A contacted the Navy Life Support Division in Crystal City, Alexandria, Virginia, and set up an appointment on 11 January 1972.

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3. Results of 11 January 1972 meeting with [redacted] 25X1A and [redacted] with the Navy:

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Navy review(s) completed.

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A. Personnel contacted:

- (1) Capt Nowers (OX 2-7548) Office in charge of Life Support.
- (2) Mr. Harry Bartlett (OX 2-7433) Project Officer
- (3) Location of Navy in Crystal City,  
JP-2 Rm 1054 (Next door to Holiday Inn)

B. The system was discussed in detail with Mr. Bartlett. (See Attachment 1 and 2.) It looks like a very promising system; however, it is not as far along as the Naval Aviation News led us to believe. At present time they are at a standstill for funds. It looks like two or three years before the system will be completed. The tests will cost approximately \$250,000 and the Navy only has \$150,000.

4. Periodic followups will be made with the Navy on tests and development of their system.



AMS/OSA

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